

Nearly an accurate copy of letter sent to S. J. Austin -  
Boston -

Columbia College (D. C.)  
Jan. 7. 1847

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> is rec<sup>d</sup>. and in answer, I have to say  
that the Cause of your Brother's Removal from College, was, his  
having interfered, unnecessarily - as it was deemed, under the Circumst-  
ances - improperly, in the Relations between Capt. Haynes - the Steward  
of the College, & his Servants - The facts so far as they are known  
to us, are simply these - Mr. Haynes - a gentleman of wealth & stand-  
ing, came from Va. to take Charge of the Stewardship of the Coll. with the  
laudable purpose of aiding it, by his means - his Influence & his Lab-  
ours - bringing a N<sup>o</sup>. of his Servants (slaves) with him. Some formality  
under certain Circumstances - is required, in bringing Slaves into the Dis-  
trict - but Capt. H. took the best of legal Counsel, & acted accordingly - Some  
little time since, it appears, two of his best Servants - either of their own accord,  
or instigated by others - formed the design, secretly, of course - of attempting  
to gain their Freedom - by taking advantage of some supposed informality,  
in the mode of their Introduction here - They made known their Plan, to  
your Bro<sup>r</sup> - as he says, after it was commenced by one of them at least, & ap-  
plied to him for aid - He seems to have entered, with a good deal of zeal,  
& earnestness, into their plan - to have afforded them aid & encouragement, &  
to have solicited others - northern young men, to join him in it - clandestinely,  
of course - And here seems to have been his first act of indiscretion & of  
wrong, in the case - He sh<sup>d</sup>. have considered his Relations to Capt. Haynes, &  
the Coll. & that an interference in a matter of this sort & in such a way, w<sup>d</sup>. be at-  
tended with very bad consequences - both to himself & others - He must have  
known it w<sup>d</sup>. be regarded by Capt. Haynes, & by others - as a direct Conspiracy  
with his Servants - against his rights & interests - as aiding & abetting in an at-



tempt to wrest from him those who were not entitled to their freedom as he sup-  
posed & now supposes, & that on the best legal authority - and that it w<sup>d</sup>. awaken  
against him the strong & indignant feelings of those with whom he was associated.  
He may say he tho<sup>t</sup>. it was right - He supposed they were entitled to their freedom,  
by law - admitting he did - He was not required to interfere - & he sh<sup>d</sup>. have con-  
sidered, with the consequences - especially of such <sup>kind of</sup> interference - and then told  
them, that, situated as he was, he c<sup>d</sup>. not do them - He owed paramount obli-  
gations to others - & th<sup>o</sup>. he wished them well - he c<sup>d</sup>. not interfere, <sup>especially</sup> in the <sup>clandestine</sup> manner they  
proposed. - Or, if he considered his obligation to them, paramount, he might have  
separated himself from Coll. - thus not have involved others in trouble, or viola-  
ted his obligations to them - & or sh<sup>d</sup>. not then have had the right to interfere with  
his Court - or have been injured by it - at least, to the same extent, <sup>however in</sup>  
proper, or inexpedient, in itself - or might have tho<sup>t</sup>. it to be - Or he might have  
gone openly, to Capt. Haynes, & told him what he intended to do & thus have  
avoided one of the worst features of the Case - the appearance of secretly plotting  
& combining with his Servants against his rights & interests - But in sup-  
posing they were entitled to their freedom, by law - He seems to have been either  
willingly, or too easily misled - In regard to one of them, at least - the one he par-  
tially aided - (of the other I know less) - there does not seem to be any ground, for such  
a supposition - all the legal authorities of any weight I have reason to believe  
are decidedly against it - And he sh<sup>d</sup>. not have hazarded, so much as he was  
known to be at stake - on such an uncertainty - Some of his best friends, I un-  
derstand - advised him against it, & earnestly dissuaded him from the under-  
taking - representing the evils that w<sup>d</sup>. follow - to himself, & others - and were the  
only ones who consented to join with him at first - afterwards withdrew, & left him  
to act alone - Perhaps, possibly, he did not follow the advice given - but went on  
furnishing one of the Servants with money, & a note anonymous & without address  
- but it to be directed to a Lawyer - when suddenly, the Plot was discovered - the  
Servants were immediately removed to Va - and the one which he had particu-



early and, promptly gave up the name of you & Dr. as his wider & better exhibit-  
ing the note he had written, & the money he had given him - This - as was to be ex-  
pected - as I suppose the expected - produced a very strong & indignant feeling against  
himself for such a course of procedure - a degree of excitement & irritation, for a time  
in Coll. which it required all the skill & authority of the Faculty, to control - They  
did, however, control it so that no outbreak or violence, was committed or attempt-  
ed - On learning from you & Brother, the nature & extent of his participation  
in the affair - the Faculty tho. proper to require his immediate <sup>rich</sup> separation from Coll.  
not by an open expulsion but by an immediate removal - This W. probably had  
been necessary, on his own account - but the Faculty felt it their duty to adopt  
that form of action in order to vindicate themselves from any countenance, or  
~~toleration~~ of such a course of conduct in any student - We deeply  
regret the occurrence - as one which is attended with evil & only evil, to all con-  
cerned - It cannot but be an injury - to some extent, at least - to himself - an injury  
to the Coll. to Capt. Haynes & to the servants themselves - and seems likely to  
be productive of no good, to any body, in any quarter - (and what aggravates the  
Reflection, is, that it seems to have promised no essential benefit, to any one - even  
at last - Capt. Haynes is esteemed an exemplary, & respectable Ch<sup>r</sup>. man - He is  
a human master - treating his servants well - providing amply for them - & quite  
as indulgent towards them, as is probably for their good - if they are to be kept  
as servants, at all - and their task is an easy one - I think neither of them have  
done half as much as mine, who are kind, & who do what they please - and  
one of them at least - I think those who know him best, W. scarcely expect, if  
left to himself - W. be any thing better than an idle & worthless vagabond, upon  
socy - The other might, perhaps, have done better, yet I think it is probable we  
expect him to be any better off than he was before - if so well)



1. This man w.<sup>d</sup> permit, in his family, for a moment - either north, or S. - and treated as both he, & Capt. H. were in regard to the Coll. it c<sup>d</sup> not but be attended with the most ruinous consequences -

If the relations of Capt. H. with his servants displeased him - or was a source of annoyance to him - why did he not retire from the Coll. - the world was wide enough - there was no constraint - he came here voluntarily - he might have gone at his pleasure.

Before he began this affair, he might have tasted a hon. dismissal, so far as I know - of one where he pleased - others than said himself as others as in minor ant of trouble - why, sh<sup>d</sup> he have been willing - thus tho. to fly - unnecessarily - nay almost wantonly - to involve himself - <sup>his friends</sup> the Coll. - all around him, in a scene of confusion & produce injuries - to others - if not to himself which he might labour in vain - perhaps, for a lifetime to repair? -

2. I suppose he had, when he left the hope that at a suitable time - if he desired he might, perhaps, obtain from the faculty, such a statement of his case as w<sup>d</sup> allow of his being admitted to another Coll. to complete his course - I can only say - I suppose - much, in regard to this, will depend upon his future course - and tho for nothing will occur - to increase the pain which is now felt on his acct. -



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plete

Columbian College, D. C.  
Feb. 1 1847

Mr. H. J. Arnold.

Sir: Some of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. came to hand on Thurs-  
day last, & has rec'd. as early attention as the other Engagements of the Fac-  
ulty w<sup>d</sup>. permit. In answer to your Inquiry, I am requested to say  
that the Cause of your being "inquired to leave College" your having  
interfered in a manner which, under the Circumstances, the Faculty  
deemed very improper & wrong. Your second Inquiry is an-  
swered in this Reply to the first. In answer to the 3<sup>d</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> all that the Fac-  
ulty deem it necessary now to say, will be found in the Remarks which follow.

The principal Points to which they w<sup>d</sup>. refer, as constituting the  
wrong & impropriety of your Course - are these - 1<sup>st</sup>. Considering the re-  
lations in which you stood to the Coll. & to Capt. Haynes as its Steward -  
your interference, at all, in the matter of the Servants - as a student, you  
were brought into a Position with the Steward, which sh<sup>d</sup>. have forbidden  
you interfering with his family or domestic Relations, in any way - as a  
member of the College, you were bound to abstain from any acts or any con-  
course of Conduct not absolutely necessary - which w<sup>d</sup>. be calculated to pro-  
duce difficulty or disturbance - or which w<sup>d</sup>. affect injuriously the Inter-  
ests of the Inst<sup>n</sup> with which you were connected. If willing, yourself,  
to encounter the evils - whatever they might be - of such a course, you had no  
right, unnecessarily, to bring odium or injury upon others, or to prejudice,  
thereby, <sup>any</sup> important public Interest.

2<sup>nd</sup>. The manner of  
your interference - It was secret - clandestine - and must have - as you  
knew - or sh<sup>d</sup>. have known upon the mind of Capt. Haynes - upon those of  
others - all the effect of a secret conspiracy - a combination with his  
Servants - against what he regarded as his rights & interests - a course of con-



duct which w<sup>d</sup> not, for a moment, be permitted by any head or master of a family - any where - either North or South. "But you may say - 'an open' - what w<sup>d</sup> be regarded by others, as a far more manly & honorable 'Course - w<sup>d</sup> have defeated the object' - Not if it was 'right one' - an open procedure, I feel authorized to say - if the servants were legally entitled to their freedom - w<sup>d</sup> not have affected their legal rights, in the least - nor Capt. Haynes responsibility to grant them their rights - "But you may push still farther - in justification or Excuse - that you did not think it was wrong - as you supposed they were entitled to their freedom 'by law' - You did not know this - and even if you had, the remarks made under the first Head, will fully apply -



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Columbian College D.C.  
Feb. 7 1843

Your Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup>. ult. is rec<sup>d</sup>. in answer I  
am authorized, & requested to say that the Cause of your Removal  
from College, was an interference in the Relations between Capt. Hayes  
& his Servants, which, under the Circumstances was deemed  
highly improper, & wrong. The Circumstances attending the removal, you  
have already inquired, & answered, in the reply to  
the first. In regard to the 3<sup>d</sup>. Inquiry <sup>after a possible time</sup> Sh. your future Course, be such as to  
authorize it, the Faculty w<sup>o</sup>. no doubt, be willing to give, to the Faculty  
of any other Coll. to which you might choose to apply for admission, as  
favorable a statement of your Case, as Truth & Justice will allow.  
The Principal Points which the Faculty consider as constituting the  
wrong & impropriety of your Course are 1<sup>st</sup>. Considering the Relations  
in which you stood to Capt. Hayes & the Coll. your interference at all,  
in the matter of the Servants. You were a member of the Coll. & were thus brought  
into a relation to the Steward, as one of its officers, which Sh. have forbid  
your interference, in any way, with his family or domestic Relations.  
2<sup>d</sup>. The manner, of that interference. It was secret & clandestine & we have  
as you know - a Sh. have known both to Capt. H. & to others all the appa-  
rances of a secret conspiracy - a combination with his Servants, against his  
rights & duties to. But you may say, an open & what w<sup>o</sup>. be justified by others, as  
a manly & honorable Course. We have defeated the object. The answer is, not if  
it was right. If they were legally entitled to their freedom, an open interference w<sup>o</sup>.  
not feel authorized, in saying - have affected in the least their legal rights. Nor  
Capt. H. responsibility, to prevent them those rights. But you may plea, further



in excuse, or justification - that you did not know it was wrong, as you tho. they were  
entitled to their freedom, "by law" - Admitting this - the first Remark, before made  
w<sup>d</sup>. in the view of the Faculty fully apply. You were not required to interfere  
(they excepted), that, under the Circumstances, your <sup>obligation</sup> duty to others, was paramount  
\* And you knew, that such interference w<sup>d</sup>. be productive of very serious Con-  
sequences, both to yourself & others - if found out - and the Faculty, therefore consid-  
er that, under the Circumstances - your duty to others - to the Coll. & to those with  
whom you were associated - was paramount - you ought not to have acted -  
But you did not know, that the Servant whom you thus attempted to aid  
was "entitled to his freedom, by law" - & in thus supposing, you allowed your-  
self to be, either willingly, or too easily, misled - indeed, the smallest meas-  
ure of prudence, or precaution, in taking so important a step - w<sup>d</sup>. have  
shown you at once, that there was no ground for such a supposition - that there  
was no such law - as was pretended, in Existence - I speak decidedly on this  
subject for I have before me the <sup>law</sup> to which reference was <sup>doubtless</sup> made - together  
with the opinion of one of the ablest jurists in the Dist. - and a single glance, at  
the law itself, is sufficient to show any reasonable man - that there was not a shadow  
of ground, for any such proceeding on the part of Abram - the Servant - so that all  
the danger (according to your own view) was risked - all the bad consequences which  
you knew w<sup>d</sup>. follow - if you sh<sup>d</sup>. happen to be found out - were hazarded - upon a  
mere supposition - & that, one which proved to the slightest <sup>degree</sup> careful obser-  
vation - to be a perfectly groundless one! - How then can such a course be jus-  
tified, or even excused - 3<sup>d</sup>. of a disregard of consequences - thus you knew  
w<sup>d</sup>. be bad - in our most important direction, at least, - & that a most important  
one - you even apprehended they w<sup>d</sup>. be terrible, if you sh<sup>d</sup>. be found out - yet  
you disregarded them & this, for a very uncertain benefit to any one - even  
at best - the attainment of that, depending upon a mere supposition -  
which upon the slightest examination, proved to be utterly groundless -  
Could this be right - The evils sh<sup>d</sup>. be just & certain - The good - if any, doubtful



ful of attainment - may the last carefulness or attention w<sup>d</sup> have shown it attain-  
- practical! This is not true Benevolence - that has always a due regard to  
the means, as well as the end - We have no right to fix our eye even upon a pro-  
spect - then rush to its attainment, at any cost, to ourselves & thus - as the  
hazard <sup>or injury</sup> of every other interest, however important - If the means be objection-  
- able or wrong - the good (however otherwise desirable) is not within our reach - it can  
be accomplished, however otherwise - it is not attainable by us - If the opposite  
of this, <sup>as I understand it to be</sup> the sentiment which you intend to avow in your note - you are, indeed  
labouring under an egregious error - It is a doctrine which w<sup>d</sup> justify, & has been used  
to justify the worst acts, of which man was ever guilty - It is the trouble of man, in  
- in which the frightful horrors of the Inquisition have been perpetuated - and a thou-  
- sand atrocities, which the vile fanatics of every age have committed.

And to show that we have not misapprehended your views in this matter - you  
have told us in your note, that you "behold trouble, in the distance" - that you "act  
- <sup>considerately</sup> without" - the harm doing you did, was, knowingly & purposely done -  
thus being not ignorantly & from the impulse of the moment - but directly & delib-  
- erately in the face of that Law of Christ of Christ, which emphatically forbids  
us to do evil, (to any extent) that good (however desirable) may come -  
and you expect to be justified, it w<sup>d</sup> seem, for very bad acts, <sup>violating my pains obliging a person to</sup> injurious to others  
- & ruinous to other important interests, on the plea, <sup>that things are justified in</sup> "that they will do no ill will" - & that you  
acted from your "Constritions of duty" - This will not do - it is not the Law of Benevo-  
- lence of Morality, w<sup>d</sup> - Such a principle w<sup>d</sup> justify the grossest outrages upon the rights  
- & interests of others - if we but have what we suppose, to be a good object in view - It w<sup>d</sup>  
make, thus made, the sacred name of Benevolence & Christianity, a cloak for the worst  
- crimes which stain the character of Humanity - That w<sup>d</sup> indeed be a terrible misap-  
- plication of the "Law of Christ" - to which I suppose you refer - that of laying our neighbor  
- as ourselves - But the Law which that Law enjoins, "worketh no ill to his neighbor"  
- <sup>sin Rom. 13. 10.</sup> Other considerations, affecting the Benevolence of the transaction,  
might be drawn, from the Character of the servant, himself & the probable effect upon his  
- Character & Condition, of the attempt - had it ever proved successful - which, as I have



said, was impossible - Abam - altho: while under the direction & control of his master  
... provided for, as he was - esteemed a tolerably good servant - I think it w<sup>d</sup>. be the  
opinion of every one who knew him well enough to judge - that when free he  
has become an idle, worthless, vagabond - sent forth to pursue the li<sup>ve</sup> of those who  
have lost the right - the interests & the happiness of Soc<sup>y</sup> - Grossly ignorant  
vicious he is known to have been & is believed to have become so - since he has been  
under the influence of the notion, that he was to be free - But the  
city do not think it necessary or proper, to go further into detail on the subject.

In every view which they can take of your course, in this matter - they deem it  
to have been - under the circumstances - extremely improper, & wrong - And they  
are sorry to find - from your letter - that, instead of feeling a full sense of the injury  
which you have done to yourself & others - of deeply regretting your course  
of it - you seem disposed to justify it - Altho: such a disposition, & such  
a view of your duty & your obligations - they cannot see how you c<sup>d</sup>. ever have  
properly become a member of this Inst<sup>n</sup> or, indeed of any other - <sup>Proportion of your time</sup> The rights & inter-  
ests of all, with whom you are connected - must be sacrilegiously & unwisely  
set along without difficulty any where - & you w<sup>d</sup>. be a cause of trouble to anyone  
or any community



Best Copy  
Complete!  
p. 3.

Columbia College C. C.  
Feb. 7 1847

To H. J. Arnold.

Sir - Your Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. is recd.

in answer to your Inquiries, I am requested to say - That the Cause of your being "required to leave the College", was your having interfered, unnecessarily, - in a manner which, under the Circumstances - the Faculty deemed very improper & wrong - in the Relations existing between Capt. Haynes, the Steward & his Servants.

The Circumstances attending the removal, you know - Your second Inquiry is answered, in the most fully just sense to the first. To the 3<sup>d</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> you will gather all the answer which is now deemed necessary, from the Remarks which follow -

The principal Points to which the Faculty refer, as constituting the wrong & impropriety of your Course - are these - 1<sup>st</sup> Considering the Relations in which you stood to the Coll. & to Capt. Haynes, as its Steward - your interference at all, in the matter of the Servants. You were a Student, & were thus not into a connexion with the Steward, which sh<sup>d</sup>. have forbid your interfering with his family or domestic Relations, in any way - as a member of the Coll. you were bound to abstain from any acts - not absolutely necessary - which w<sup>d</sup>. be calculated to produce difficulty or disturbance - to to affect injuriously the interests of the Inst<sup>n</sup> with which you were connected - If willing to encounter the trials yourself, you had no right, unnecessarily, to conduct in such a manner as to bring odium or injury upon others - or to prejudice any important public Interest.

2<sup>d</sup>. The manner of your interference - It was secret - clandestine - & w<sup>d</sup>. have, as you know - or sh<sup>d</sup>. have known - to Capt. Haynes, & to others - all the appearance of a secret Conspiracy - a Combination with his Servants, against his rights & his interests - This w<sup>d</sup>. not be - for a moment, permitted - by any kind of a Faculty - any where -



but w<sup>d</sup> cause you to be driven, with indignation if not with violence - from the threshold - & the premises, whenever such a procedure should be known - But you may say - an open, & what w<sup>d</sup> be incurred by others, as a far more manly & honorable course - w<sup>d</sup> have defeated the object - Not if it was right - If the servants were legally entitled to their freedom, an open procedure - I feel authorized to say - w<sup>d</sup> not have affected in the least - their legal rights - nor Capt. H's responsibility to grant them those rights. But you may plead farther, in justification or excuse - that you did not think it was wrong - as you supposed they were entitled to their freedom, "by law". You did not know this - but if you did - the remarks under the 1<sup>st</sup> head, will fully apply - you were not required to interfere - you knew - according to your own admission - that very serious - perhaps disastrous consequences w<sup>d</sup> follow - both to yourself & others - if you "sh<sup>d</sup> be found out" - In the view of the Faculty - you sh<sup>d</sup> have considered your obligations to others - growing out of your violations to the Coll. & to those with whom you were associated, as paramount - & not have interfered, in the manner proposed - But you did not know that the servant whom you attempted to assist - was "entitled to his freedom, by law." It was but a supposition, & that too, it w<sup>d</sup> seem, upon the slightest & most unsubstantial grounds. Indeed, the smallest measure of prudence or precaution, in taking, so important a step, w<sup>d</sup> have shown you at once, that there was not the least ground for such a supposition - The truth is, there is no such law - as was pretended - "designed to give their freedom to slaves situated as he was" - no law, even, requiring the Registration of such - On this subject, I speak advisedly for I have the Law before me, which was referred to - with the commentary of one of the ablest Jurists in the District - and, indeed, a single glance at the Law, itself, is sufficient to show any man of common understanding, that there was not the slightest even plausible ground, for any such proceeding on the part of the servant & his aid. So that all the danger (according to your own view) was risked - all the bad consequences which you knew w<sup>d</sup> follow - if found out - were lay - aided, upon a mere supposition - that upon the slightest examination, proved to be utterly groundless! How then can such a course be justified or even excused? 3<sup>rd</sup> - a disregard of consequences - This you know



w.<sup>d</sup>. be bad - you can apprehend they w.<sup>d</sup>. be terrible - perhaps, to others, as well  
as yourself - if you sh.<sup>d</sup>. be found out - and yet you disregard them - You haz-  
arded great & certain evils, for an object which you did not know w.<sup>d</sup>. be of any  
benefit to any one - & the attainment of that, even, depending upon a mere sup-  
position, which had not the least foundation in fact - Could this be right?  
This is not the Law of Benevolence - That has always a due regard to the rights  
& interests of others - & of all others - It looks to the means - as well as to the end -  
We have no right to fix our eye, even upon a good object, & then rush to its at-  
tainment <sup>at any cost</sup> to ourselves or others - and at the hazard, or injury of any or every other  
Interest, however important - If the means be objectionable or wrong, the good  
is not attainable by us - However otherwise desirable, it is not within our reach - &  
must be relinquished - The opposite of this, is that terrible & revolting maxim, that  
"The End, Sanctifies (or justifies) the means." And if this is the sentiment, as I  
understand to be, which you intend to avow in your note - you are, indeed, la-  
boring under a serious error - It is a doctrine which w.<sup>d</sup>. justify, & has been used  
to justify, the worst acts of which men were ever guilty - It is the terrible Popma,  
under which the frightful horrors of the Inquisition have been perpetrated - & under  
which the wildest fanatics of every age have committed their nameless atrocities -

To show that we have not misapprehended your views in this  
matter - you have told us that the harm & injury you have done - so far as you c.<sup>d</sup>.  
pursue it, was knowingly & purposely done - you "beheld trouble in the distance  
you acted not without consideration" - as you had said before, you knew "the  
consequences w.<sup>d</sup>. be very bad - if it was found out," thus going - not ignorantly  
or inconsiderately - from the impulse of the moment - as we had hoped - &  
supposed even - but knowingly & deliberately - in the very face of that great  
Christian Law - which forbids, emphatically, that we sh.<sup>d</sup>. "do evil, that good  
may come" - i.e. evil, to any extent - that good, however desirable, may come - This  
is not only not Benevolence - but not morality, even. Such a Principle w.<sup>d</sup>. justify  
the grossest outrages upon the rights & interests of others. It w.<sup>d</sup>. make, & has made  
the sacred names of Benevolence & Christianity, a cloak for the worst crimes that



stain the character of man. If this is the view you take of the matter - it seems to  
be that conveyed in your note - it w<sup>d</sup>. indeed a terrible misapplication of the Law  
of Christ - which teaches us "to love our neighbor as ourselves" - for that is a "Love"  
which "worketh no ill to his neighbor" (See Rom. 13.10)

Other Considerations  
affecting the W involvement of the transaction, might be drawn from the Character of the  
Servant himself - & the probable effect upon his condition & Prospects - Had the attempt  
proved successful - altho<sup>g</sup> as I have said before - this was impossible - while under  
the control & direction of his master, well provided for as he was - Abram was  
estimated a tolerably good servant - but I think it w<sup>d</sup>. be the opinion of all who knew  
him well enough to judge - that if set free, he w<sup>d</sup>. have become an idle & worthless fel-  
low - a misapplication upon society - sent forth to swell the n<sup>o</sup>. of those whose sole business  
it is - to prey upon the rights - the interests & the happiness of the Community in  
which they live -



No. 1.

1st. <sup>①</sup>  
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2<sup>nd</sup> draft  
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Columbian Coll. D. C.  
Feb'y 1847

Dear Bro. Stow

Yours of the 22<sup>d</sup>. Inst. is just rec<sup>d</sup>. & altho' I regret the occasion which seems to have been chiefly instrumental in calling it forth - yet I am very happy to hear from you. The subject to which you allude, has indeed, caused us a good deal of anxiety - not it is true as to the course which our duty requires us to pursue - for of that we have had but one opinion - & c. I have had but one - from the very beginning of the transaction - but in the peculiarly sensitive state of the public feeling, on the subject of Slavery - from the difficulty of our action in calling in question of placing the matter within any proper compass in such a light as w<sup>d</sup>. do justice, to all the Parties concerned - We have published nothing from the Faculty - I have been extremely reluctant to do so - I disapprove, wholly of bringing the discipline or private relations of either Colleges - schools or families, unnecessarily before the public - They can rarely judge of them fairly or impartially & much oftener, I think injury, than good is done - to all concerned - as in this instance - we have been urged to make a public statement of the facts in the case - especially as so many articles had appeared, containing the grossest errors & misstatements - calculated to make a very bad & very wrong impression upon the public mind - but we have foreborne - as it seemed to us undesirable thus to call out the public sentiment any more than was absolutely necessary - for if it sh<sup>d</sup>. appear with us the young man is senior just here - but if the contrary, we sh<sup>d</sup>. be injured. Bro. Sen. however, that the injury has come to the Coll. already - if your impression is true, of the "Statement of N. England" - I have no reason to doubt it - and whether it will be possible, by any statement of facts - to counteract this sentiment, I do not know - I have written two or three private letters - not on purpose - but as I had occasion to write, to individuals - in the hope that a simple statement of some of the principal facts & one or two of the points involved in the case w<sup>d</sup>. be all that was necessary to relieve the impression made by the wrong & distorted representations which had been made, by interested parties, upon the subject of all - "ex parte" & testimony - I had desired, that one of those letters might be



shown to you - or its contents stated so that you might know some thing of the grounds  
upon which the Faculty acted - Have you seen it? - (A tolerably fair statement of the  
Historical Facts, as given in the Letter of the Wash. Consp. of the Watch. in that pa-  
per of the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. 71<sup>st</sup> by no means a clear statement of the Principles in  
volved - or the Circumstances which form the Transaction its peculiar  
in distinction Character - In the Ev<sup>g</sup> Journal, also, of the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst. some  
one, probably, to whom I had written has given in his own form - the view  
which he supposed the Faculty took - To both these, I will refer you with  
these qualifications I have stated - without going over the whole ground of stating the facts  
events connected with it - The main points, as they presented themselves to the Fac-  
ulty were - 1<sup>st</sup> The Secret & clandestine Character of the Transaction <sup>having all the appearance of a pre-  
conspiracy</sup> with the servants of the Steward, against the <sup>his supposed</sup> rights (as he then  
then to be) and they really were - <sup>This is to be extremely offensive, any person</sup> <sup>intentionally</sup> ~~that~~ was unbecom-  
acc. in person - 2<sup>nd</sup> A sum of money paid for the Proportions of this  
situation He was a member of the Coll. & as such, sustained Relations to the Stew-  
ard, as one of its Officers - which sh<sup>d</sup>. have forbid his tampering with his servants,  
at all - or <sup>interfering with</sup> from entering into any combination to break up his relations with  
them, especially if those relations were legalized, & specially known & approved  
- Perhaps I cannot give you a clear <sup>or better</sup> view of these points - than by stating a case -  
Suppose yourself - or Dr. Sharp, for instance sh<sup>d</sup>. take some students into your  
house, to receive instruction, & the general direction of his moral & social Character - Then  
comes on <sup>who</sup> ~~he~~ applies for admission - (on like terms with others) ~~He is received~~ - You bestow  
upon him your daily care - give him the best instruction you are able - make first and utter-  
most in his welfare - endeavor in all suitable ways to promote his Happiness & prosper him  
for future usefulness - You have servants - bound to you, by a legal obligation - as com-  
mon in N.E. - in the case of apprentices & others - By & large - your servants begin to show  
signs of discontent - then an appearance of moving - & suddenly it comes to your knowledge  
that they have actually commenced a Law-suit against you - to break their indentures - & on the  
point of leaving you i.e. running away - leaving you to a vexatious Law-suit, for their money -  
taking care to place themselves fully beyond your reach - let the Case be decided which way it



will and on Inquiring, you find that this student, in whom you have, perhaps felt a par-  
-ticular interest, & towards whom you have shown special indulgence - has been, for  
for some time, <sup>secretly</sup> tampering with the servants - aiding & abetting & encouraging them in this  
- course - & with the full knowledge <sup>fall the</sup> that it was trouble it was to cause you & thus - the  
- expense - the disorder & confusion it is bringing upon your Household - in a word to break you  
up - there, & in your domestic household affairs - and as those with whom he was associated  
w. naturally look with indignation upon such reckless & dishonorable conduct - it  
w. throw all under your roof, into the utmost disorder & confusion. Now I put it  
to yourself, what w. you say to him - what w. you do with him? I have nothing  
in fornicity, that, first of all - you w. dismiss him from your house - & say he had a-  
-bused your confidence & had rendered himself utterly unworthy to be a member of your  
family - In vain, w. it be for him to say I did not know it was wrong - I tho. that  
tho. you consist or inaccuracy, there  
was some flaw, in their inducements - by which they might be freed from you, & I was only  
helping them to try it - & to clear themselves from you, at any rate - as to the trouble it  
caused, it w. cause to you nothing  
sh. cause, in any quarter - I did not care - if I only got them away from you - & so far from feeling any regret  
for the injury he had done - for want of showing that he was really sh. an offender  
- self, I know my own business - understand my relations to my servants, my legal  
rights - & situated as you were, in my family, you had no right to interfere, in any such  
way, in my domestic affairs - Your own rights & interests, in such a case, you w.  
perfectly understand - as well as the character & desert of this conduct - under the  
circumstances - Now Enforce your House to the Coll. & multiply yourself  
to the officers, & you have the case in hand - <sup>in its main features, and original, I understand but wanting</sup> and in this you have any and are to your  
some of the aggravating circumstances which go to settle the <sup>now the fact, of the desert</sup>  
- desert of a young man - <sup>and the fact was not expellable</sup> - but quite different - He was <sup>greatly removed</sup>  
- simply required to leave - which he doubtless w. have done - which, he said he expected  
to do, (if found out) I think the act such as w. have justified his removal, irrespec-  
- tive of the state of feeling among the Southern - or any other students - 2. I think, that  
the large majority - or any 1/2 of the students have approved his conduct, & his con-  
- tinuance. He w. not have been allowed to remain - at least, I can speak for myself - I sh.  
have tho. his conduct required his removal - any when - & from any Inst. - so far as I had  
authority to act - I am confident it w. have taken place - The truth is - this matter about  
the students, & almost every thing about the affair has been very greatly misrepresented -



Then was it is true - a good deal of excitement offering, for the moment - as was perhaps natural - considering the manner of A's proceeding & the aspect it at first presented - but the Faculty knew very little of this - I, at least, knew almost nothing of it - before they acted - They heard no threats or intimations of being on the part of any one - nor, if they had, w<sup>d</sup>. they have been deterred from doing their duty - I can assure you - this Faculty - are not in the habit of acting from any such considerations - as they all have had reason, more than once - during the last year - to know - And to show that there is no partiality, in this matter - They had occasion some time since to act upon a case of what they (the Faculty) considered improper treatment of a servant - They removed him, precisely as they did Arnold - tho' contrary to the expressed wish of nearly every student in Coll. -

Now for some of the additional circumstances - This proceeding of Arnold's was tantamount to aiding this servant to run away - That was their intention - as one of them declared immediately on his being apprehended - & the other was in the act of passing up his clothes - to escape - when discovered - under pretence of being for their freedom they were intending to run away - alarm their master with a vexatious lawsuit for their recovery, while they were fairly out of his reach - But Arnold will say he did not know this - He ought to have known it - That is the usual course in such cases - & from what they themselves or at least one of them - he had reason to believe that was the intention - it is probable the very money A. gave Abram, w<sup>d</sup>. have been used for that purpose - Now what kind of a position w<sup>d</sup>. that place us in - Students of Coll. - recently aiding servants to run away from their masters

But he may say, that an officer, & what all w<sup>d</sup>. have considered as a far more honorable & manly course, w<sup>d</sup>. have defeated the object - not if it was a "lawful" one - I have the highest professional authority, for saying, that such a course w<sup>d</sup>. not, in the slightest degree, have affected their legal rights, or the responsibility of Capt. H. The case w<sup>d</sup>. have been tried in the Courts here & he w<sup>d</sup>. have been oblig<sup>d</sup>. by matters which he w<sup>d</sup>. not incur - if he were otherwise disposed - to give them their freedom - let them be when they w<sup>d</sup>. if they were entitled to it "by law"

This case in no way necessarily connects with slavery - same conduct w<sup>d</sup>. have been offensive in any other - This happened to be the relation in which interfere had he gone to Capt. H. in a more & injurious manner -



2<sup>nd</sup> draft  
Mar 9  
Complete

No 2

Columbian Coll. D.C.  
1847

Dear Mr. Stow

Yours of the 22<sup>nd</sup> was duly rec<sup>d</sup>. & altho' I regret the occasion which seems to have been chiefly instrumental in calling it yet I am very happy to hear from you, & will endeavor to give you some light on the subject to which you allude - as, within the brief limits of a letter, I may be able - It has, indeed, been the cause of a good deal of anxiety to us - not it is true - as to the course which our duty required of us - for of that we have had, & C. have had but one opinion from the beginning - but from the difficulty in the peculiarly sensitive state of the public feeling, on the subject of Slavery, sh<sup>o</sup> our action be called in question - of placing the matter in so full & clear a light within any narrow compass, as to do justice to all the Parties concerned. We have published nothing from the Faculty - I have been extremely reluctant to do so - I disapprove, wholly, of the Policy of bringing private matters - such as is usually the Discipline of Colleges - Schools & families, or other domestic relations - unnecessarily before the public - They can rarely judge of them fairly or impartially - & all feelings, & party spirit are awakened, & perpetuated, & much oftener, I think, injury, than good is done to all concerned - But it is, I deem that in this case, the injury - so far as the Coll. is concerned, at least - is already done - or is fairly in Progress - if your impression in regard to the "Sentiment of N.C." is correct - & I have no reason to doubt it, and whether, by any just explanation we can make - it will be possible to counteract that sentiment, I do not know - It has arisen, doubtless, partly from the nature of the subject - & partly from the exceedingly wrong & injurious statements, both as to matters of fact & inference, which have been made publicly, & perhaps privately - in regard to the whole - & different parts of the transaction - But on this, I am very sure - if the case is fully known - in all its facts & brains, not only in



the sentiment refused to be altered - but the Faculty w<sup>d</sup>. be sustained in this action, by all the sober reflecting part of the Community, even in N. E.

I have written two or three private Letters - not on purpose - but as I had occasion to write to Individuals - stating some of the principal Facts, some or two of the Points involved in the Case - in the hope that this w<sup>d</sup>. be all that w<sup>d</sup>. be necessary to relieve the Suspension which w<sup>d</sup>. be very likely to be reached, by the very wrong & distorted representations given by interested parties, upon the flimsiest of all testimony, "ex parte" of the persons implicated - I had expected that - as I c<sup>d</sup>. not write to all - one of these letters might be shown to you - or its contents stated - so that you might know something of the ground upon which the Faculty acted. Have you seen it? Some of the historical facts are stated in the Letter of the Wash<sup>g</sup> Comm<sup>s</sup> of the Watch<sup>m</sup> in that paper of the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. No. by no means a clean & full statement of the Principles involved, is given, or the Circumstances which give to the Transaction its distinctive Character. The facts, however, I believe, are correctly stated, as far as they go, & to them I w<sup>d</sup>. refer you without the trouble of going on in detail the external History of the affair.

The main points of the Case - as they presented themselves to the Faculty, were - 1<sup>st</sup>. The secret, clandestine Character of the proceeding - It had all the appearance & all the effect, of a secret plotting, & conspiracy, with the servants of the Steward, against what he knew to be his legal rights, & supposed to be his interests - This was unnecessary in the view of the Faculty was, on many accounts, very improper. 2<sup>d</sup>. It w<sup>d</sup>. be regarded as dishonorable, & extremely offensive in any way.

The History of the Case is briefly this - I cannot, of course, give you the Facts in detail - but so far as they go - they may be implicitly relied on - Some two years ago, Simon Cap<sup>t</sup>. Wagner, a gentleman of wealth & standing in Va. - drove a fast Wasp. Ch<sup>h</sup>. & much esteemed for his upright consistent Character - came to the Coll. to take charge of the Stewardship with a view of aiding it, by his <sup>as Dr. Sample has done before</sup> his means - His influence & his labors as Dr. Sample - whose pupils & neighbors



spiritual child, he was - for whose character & example he had a great veneration -  
He bro't with him a n<sup>o</sup>. of his servants (slaves) apprehending there might be some  
formality requisite in introducing them into the District he took the best legal counsel  
Gen Walter Jones, whom you know - by whom he was told, none was required, in his case  
not even registration - was advised not to do it - Some months since, he found that  
two of his best servants - John & Abram, were becoming very neglectful & inattentive to his  
house & business - This caused him a good deal of trouble & anxiety, in his family, & with his train  
-ers - Certain indications also led him to suppose that John, intended to escape - For these  
reasons - because he had become worthless, here - he had determined to send John back  
to live among his friends, where he hoped he w<sup>d</sup>. be more contented, & do better - Before  
executing this purpose, however, it came suddenly to his knowledge - that Abram, the  
younger - was about to commence a suit <sup>against his master</sup> - for his freedom - This, Capt. H. knew  
to be only a vexatious suit - w<sup>d</sup>. cause him great trouble & expense - <sup>in vain</sup> - He therefore  
attended with the hope of ruin of the servant as he w<sup>d</sup>. run away, unless put in jail  
He therefore determined to send them both at once - to live - not however, without taking  
the same legal counsel, & being assured that he had a perfect <sup>legal</sup> right to do so - Abram  
on being told he was to go, immediately & voluntarily gave up the money note, which  
he said <sup>he</sup> mentioned had been given him, that he had been his aid & abettor in this affair  
He said, further, that they (the servants) were to have been off, on Monday (this was Sat.) -  
The occurrence did not come to the knowledge of the Faculty, until Monday - On enquiring, they  
found that trouble had been for some time - recently arising & settling a disagreement  
principally between them in this case - they had indutated <sup>with this result</sup> -  
the servants, especially Abram - to whom he gave the money note - The note, which was  
a fictitious one to him, signed with <sup>a fictitious</sup> name - he avowed, & said it was intended for a  
slave, whom he did not name - On being admonished of the impropriety of such a  
course of conduct <sup>in this way</sup> of false promises, with the strictures relations to his servants & of the evils  
inquiries which necessarily follow from it - to himself - to Capt. H. & to the Coll.  
He entered no more of its impropriety, but rather justified his course, & for aught  
that C. H. saw or knew - w<sup>d</sup>. be ready, sh. an opportunity offer - as he had since more  
fully proved - <sup>in the same case</sup> to enter upon just such another course of proceeding - The Faculty, during



it no longer proper, to retain him as a member of the Coll. - <sup>by the friends</sup> require him to leave - not by a formal ex-  
pulsion - but <sup>by the friends</sup> in the manner which is commonly known by as a simple "Removal"

The main points in the case, as they presented themselves to the Faculty  
were - 1<sup>st</sup> The secret, clandestine Character of his proceedings - This was  
entirely unnecessary, for any proper objects which he had in view - was - on ma-  
ny accounts in the view of the Faculty - highly improper - It w<sup>d</sup>. be regarded as dis-  
honorable, & be extremely offensive in any when - \* It w<sup>d</sup>. have all the appear-  
ance & the Effect, of a secret plotting conspiracy with the Servants of the Steu-  
ard, against what he knew to be his legal rights, & opposed to his interests - ag-  
ainst the peace & order of his Household.

2<sup>nd</sup> The want of a due regard for the Proprieties of his Situation - He was  
a member of the Coll. & such, sustained Relations to the Steu<sup>ard</sup> as one of its officers -  
he forbid his tampering with his Servants, in any <sup>or interfering in his relations with them</sup> such way - In his entire  
confidence, Capt. H. had allowed his Servants to have free intercourse with the stu-  
dents - to visit their rooms, & receive instruction from them in any manner they  
pleased - not thinking that any unfair advantage w<sup>d</sup>. be taken of this freedom,  
to cause him trouble - to break in upon his legal relations to them, or to dis-  
turb the Peace & order of his Household - Such a Course w<sup>d</sup>. be regarded as -

as a member of the Coll. - <sup>enjoying</sup> its benefits, receiving the Priv. & advantages  
- tions of those Connected with it - as he fully acknowledged - He was bound to re-  
gard its Interests - its welfare - and not unnecessarily to indulge in any acts or  
rather upon any Course of Conduct, which w<sup>d</sup>. destroy its peace & order, or <sup>proper</sup> <sup>great detriment to its interests</sup> <sup>practically</sup> injure its usefulness - There is an implied obligation here, which every right  
minded person <sup>will</sup> feel & which must be <sup>scrupulously</sup> observed, in all mutual Confid-  
ence w<sup>d</sup>. be destroyed - no Inst. - no family w<sup>d</sup>. be safe - (Let it be understood that a  
man is at liberty to take advantage of this voluntary Commission with a family  
or another - of the <sup>mutual</sup> Confidence which it implies - to indulge in acts or <sup>unnecessarily</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>enter</sup>  
into a <sup>upon a course of conduct</sup> Combination - which it is known, will essentially disturb its peace  
- break up its relations & destroy its means of <sup>useful</sup> <sup>beneficial</sup> <sup>gall</sup> <sup>action</sup> <sup>this</sup> <sup>obligation</sup>  
Society of this kind, at least is at an end - (An unnecessary - known, & celebrated)



2. d.  
Pres.  
Con.  
Such was the present case - Arnold knew - as he <sup>in various</sup> the consequences which w<sup>d</sup>. follow, "if he was found out" He was admonished of the impropriety of the Course - ~~strongly~~ <sup>advised</sup> against it - by some of his most judicious friends among the Northern Students - but he persisted - knowingly - deliberately - has published a reading, to report the same - Course of Conduct, &c. an opportunity offer-

Perhaps I cannot give you a clearer or better view of these several points  
as they present themselves to the minds of the Faculty - than by stating a  
Case - Suppose any one - yourself, for instance, Sh. chooses to take into  
your family, say a more young man, for the purpose of imparting to them  
instruction - taking the general direction of their moral, social, & perhaps  
religious Character - One comes on, knowing your circumstances & situation,  
he applies for admission - You receive him, with expressions of kindness - you  
bestow upon him your daily care - give him the best instruction you are able -  
manifest an interest in his welfare, & endeavor in all suitable ways to promote  
his happiness, to prepare him for future usefulness - Perhaps you grant to him  
special indulgences, which you w. not, or have desired to others - You have ser-  
vants, bound to you by a legal obligation, as is common in N. E. in the case  
of apprentices & others - After a time, your servants begin to show signs of dis-  
content - then an appearance of sorrow, & suddenly it comes to your knowledge  
that they ~~they~~ <sup>have</sup> actually commenced a Law-suit against you, to break their bonds  
- which, by the way, you know to be secure, having taken the best legal Coun-  
sel, on the subject - and that they are on the point of escaping i.e. running  
away - leaving you to a vexatious Law-suit, for their recovery - taking care first  
to place themselves entirely beyond your reach - let the Case turn which way  
it may - And on inquiring, suppose you find that this student thus situated &  
thus related to you & your family - in whom, perhaps, you have felt a special  
interest - & to whom you may have granted special Indulgences - has been, for some  
time, secretly tampering with those servants - has been aiding & advising them in this



course, & has actually been supplying them with money, to Commence this suit -  
and all this, with the full knowledge of the great trouble & expense it was to cause  
you <sup>& the injury it was to do to others</sup> thus - (the disorder & confusion it was to bring upon your household)  
- in a word - that it w<sup>d</sup>. <sup>wholly</sup> break up your family arrangements - & throw your  
whole household into the utmost disorder & confusion. See P.P. No 1.

But perhaps I ought to say a word more, in answer to the Plea which A.  
makes, in defence of his Course - I have already said, his secret clandestine  
proceeding, <sup>considered by the Dec. highly improper, & that it is a gross offence against the Dec.</sup> was, <sup>in fact</sup> ~~unlawful~~ <sup>proceeding</sup> for any lawful object, he had in view - than  
from the reasons I have given. <sup>on the contrary</sup>, that he saw, & only as every one  
w<sup>d</sup>. say - far more honourably - stated the situation, what he intended to do - or that he came  
to the Faculty, whose Council it w<sup>d</sup>. certainly have been proper to have taken in  
so important a step - <sup>all parties</sup> ~~we~~ might <sup>in fact</sup> doubtless have been saved from the trouble  
& injury, this unhappy occurrence has, <sup>probably</sup> ~~as~~ likely to produce - He w<sup>d</sup>. then  
have found <sup>at once</sup> that his undertaking was a hopeless one - His object was not a complete  
re - & therefore c<sup>d</sup>. not be attained - or, he might have rec<sup>d</sup>. as kind treatment, as  
his <sup>own</sup> Brother S.D. who has made so many furious attacks upon us in the  
public papers, says he w<sup>d</sup>. have rec<sup>d</sup>. at ~~St. Anne's~~ <sup>St. Anne's</sup> - i.e. been told to mind  
his own business, & let the Steward & his Servants alone - That w<sup>d</sup>. have saved  
us from all the trouble - who will say he ought not to have done it?  
I. Mr says he supposed there was a <sup>the servant's assistance, who is entitled to his Brother's "by law"</sup> ~~clerk~~ <sup>clerk</sup> in their favour of the Servant & his assist  
- Taking him a fair, on his own ground - he had no right, under the Circum-  
stances - to ~~suppose~~ <sup>suppose</sup> so - Capt. H's Character for probity & integrity, was against  
the supposition - No Lawyer of reputable standing, in the Court w<sup>d</sup>. say <sup>he</sup> ~~they~~ was  
thus entitled - This he had reason to know for it is said the Servant ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> reporting  
while in correspondence with him, to find a Lawyer to undertake his Case -  
And then a single glance at the Law itself, which any atty w<sup>d</sup>. have  
shown him, <sup>w<sup>d</sup>. have caused him to see at once</sup> that there was no plausible ground for the proceeding in his Case -  
Will not any one say - that in a Case involving so serious & important consequences



as he himself anticipated - He sh<sup>d</sup>. have known the grounds upon which he  
proposed to proceed? - But it may be said - has been said, in the paper  
that it was only to try the case by law - & if it failed - no harm sh<sup>d</sup>. be  
done - not so. He has been, obviously, to every intelligent man - merely a vexa-  
tious suit, & attended with very great trouble & expense - to all the parties  
concerned - Who w<sup>d</sup>. like to be tried in this way? Who has a right to do it?  
Suppose a man had got abroad - unforseen, to be sure - that you had com-  
mitted <sup>a fine</sup> an assault upon a female - Then suppose some one - a friend of yours  
perhaps - or professing to be - taking up this report - instead of going to you &  
giving you an opportunity to explain or refute it - sh<sup>d</sup>. go to the Magistrate  
& aid & advise others to go - & get a warrant & bring you before the Court &  
send a Jury, for indictment? - Then suppose to any remonstrance against  
such a course, he were to say - Oh! I heard the report, & I only tho<sup>t</sup> I sh<sup>d</sup>.  
<sup>give you a chance to</sup> try it before the Court - If ~~you are~~ <sup>you are</sup> found innocent - no harm is done - or  
known that I can anything about -

But this proceeding on the part of A. was not merely vexatious - It  
was tantamount to aiding these <sup>servants</sup> to run away from their Master - This was  
their intention, as avowed, by one of them, Abram - the other was apparently  
packing up his things to start, when taken to go to Ga. But C. will say  
he did not know this - <sup>was he yet bound to report it - or at least to suspect it?</sup> He ought to have known it. It is the usual course  
in such cases - and one of them, at least - is known to have made remarks to him, from  
which he might plainly have inferred it - But whether he knew it or not, this  
w<sup>d</sup>. undoubtedly have been the fact - so that instead of simply aiding the parties  
to gain their freedom according to law - they have been affording them means  
& facilities for running away - <sup>whether intended or not</sup> - Contrary to law - The two things w<sup>d</sup>. have been con-  
sidered together in the minds of all - as they w<sup>d</sup>. be in fact - <sup>whether</sup> they usually are in all  
such cases - fact too, it w<sup>d</sup>. seem - of helping individuals here - or a combina-  
tion, to aid servants in running away from their Masters! - Had the mon-  
ey which was given to Abram - which was said to have been intended for a



from any cause, intentional or otherwise on his part as it was very likely to do  
Lawyer - failing of reaching him, and he had run away on Monday as he avowed  
his intention to do - If W. undoubtedly has used that very money for the pur-  
pose and Mr. R. W. has been indictable for aiding Slaves to run away, wh.  
W. has been the fact - whether intentional or not - & C. the notes accompa-  
nying the money - have been produced without address - with a fictitious sig-  
nature - written in pencil, denying the strict Secrecy - in regard to those  
who were concerned in it - it is <sup>all</sup> W. has much strongly against him - why this  
Secrecy - this studied concealment from all who C. has set the matter right, & as-  
ured us, & all concerned - all the trouble it has occasioned?

of our thing <sup>how</sup> I feel confident - that in the action of the St. no injustice has been done to a  
nor had there been any sacrifice of Northern Rights - or any other rights - and now our  
I feel again that they acted just as you - or many of those who condemn us most - as you  
had us, act - or W. has done themselves had they been placed in like circumstances, or  
had a like case been presented - It was not for leaving to a poor Slave, the right to gain a  
legal confirmation of his right to freedom - there was no such legal right, in this  
case - but for <sup>many</sup> other things which were very improper to be done - under the circumstan-  
ces - thus the question may arise - whether Northern young men C. have been without  
hesitation to enjoy their rights - &c.

I know the disposition of the public mind upon this subject -



Y  
Waterville College April 30. 1847

Rev. Dr. Bacon

Dear Sir;

A few weeks since Henry J. Arnold made application by letter for admission into this College, stating at the same time some of the circumstances connected with his separation from Columbian College. It was said to him in reply, that the Faculty here had never once departed from the understood usage of Colleges, not to receive a student from another College without a certificate of honorable dismissal; but that, in consideration of the supposed peculiar circumstances of his case, we would accept from him, in place of the usual certificate of dismissal, a letter from yourself to the effect that there was, in your judgment, no valid reason, founded on his conduct while a member of Columbian College, why he should not be received into a College in New England. He now, however, without bringing the required statement, renews with great earnestness, his application to be received here. In this state of the matter, it has seemed to us, that some communication with you is an indispensable preliminary to any action on our part. I therefore, in behalf of the Faculty of this College, respectfully request you to inform us, at your earliest convenience, whether, in view of his conduct as a member of Columbian College, you can give him



the above statement; and, more particularly, whether his  
separation from your College was in consequence of the  
violation of any College Law.

I am, Sir, very sincerely and respectfully yours  
D. C. Sheldon.



Paid - box 3.

Rev. Dr. Bacon,  
President of Columbian College,  
Washington City.

Dec 30. A. A. Allen  
New York, N.Y.  
Dec 30/47



Columbian College D.C.  
11 M May 8<sup>th</sup> 1847

Rev. & Dear Sir.

Your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult. was duly rec<sup>d</sup>. in  
answer to your inquiry in reference to Henry J. Arnold, I am au-  
thorized to say - that <sup>the Faculty here</sup> cannot give it as <sup>their</sup> "Judgment," that there  
is no valid reason, founded on his conduct while a member of the Col-  
umbian College, why he sh<sup>d</sup>. not be received into a College in England  
- or elsewhere - and consequently, that no such Certificate as that  
referred to in your letter - c<sup>d</sup>. be given him. On the contrary, it is  
<sup>officially</sup> the opinion of the Faculty here - that ~~such~~ <sup>the</sup> course of conduct as he pur-  
sued <sup>the</sup> such principles of action as he avowed, w<sup>d</sup>. have justified <sup>wholly</sup> ~~spontaneously~~  
any well-regulated family, in the land - It is true, that at the mo-  
ment of his removal - when the facts were not yet fully known, his future  
relations to the Coll. were left <sup>some what indefinite</sup> ~~in some degree undetermined~~ - It had not <sup>been</sup> ~~been~~  
<sup>determined</sup> whether the case was one which w<sup>d</sup>. require a public & formal Expulsion,  
or whether it w<sup>d</sup>. admit of his receiving <sup>such a statement of his</sup> ~~a Certificate of~~ <sup>honorable</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>dis-  
tinction</sup> ~~character~~, which might, perhaps, aid him in the attempt to gain admission  
to some other inst<sup>n</sup>. But subsequent developments in regard to his  
conduct while here & in his course, since leaving College, have brought the  
Faculty fully to the <sup>determination above mentioned</sup> ~~Conclusion above stated~~ - <sup>There</sup> over -  
It may not be improper, here to remark, that most of the statements published



